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Press Release



For Immediate Release

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Statement from Governor Hassan on the Passing of Commissioner Van McLeod

Governor Directs Flags to Half-Staff on the Day of His Funeral

CONCORD – Governor Maggie Hassan issued the following statement on the passing this morning of New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources Commissioner Van McLeod:

"Tom and I were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Commissioner Van McLeod, a dedicated public servant whose lifelong commitment and innumerable contributions to the arts community in New Hampshire made our state a stronger, more vibrant and more welcoming place. As commissioner of the Department of Cultural Resources for 24 years, he was the longest-tenured state agency head currently serving and a steadfast steward of our cultural and historic resources in the Granite State.

"The preservation and promotion of cultural and historic resources is ingrained in the high quality of life we enjoy in New Hampshire, critical to our cultural identity, our economy and our vibrant communities and civic life. Van McLeod was a pillar of our cultural and historic institutions, and Tom and I join his family and loved ones, the arts and humanities communities and people across the state in mourning his loss. He was an extraordinary friend to many people and touched the lives of countless others, and he will be missed enormously."

Governor Hassan directed flags to half-staff on the day of Commissioner McLeod's funeral. A flag notification will be sent out once arrangements are finalized.

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